

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 SANAA 000389

SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: CABINET SHAKE-UP: BIOGRAPHIES FOR NEW MINISTERS

REF: SANAA 342

[¶](#)1. On February 11, President Saleh announced a dramatic reshuffling of his 34-member cabinet (reftel). The reshuffle included changes to 22 ministerial portfolios, 15 of which went to individuals not previously in the government. Among the new faces are two women, now heading the Ministries of Human Rights and Social Affairs.

[¶](#)2. Biographic information on the 15 new ministers is listed below. More detailed biographies and an analysis of the new cabinet's anticipated impact on economic, social, and security policy will be provided septel.

Biographical Information for New Ministers

[¶](#)3. Minister of Finance: Dr. Saif Mahyoub al-Asali

Date of Birth: 1956
Place of Birth: Taiz
English: Good
Education: PhD Economics, United States
Experience: - Assistant Minister of Finance for Revenues
- 2000 Board of Directors, Yemenia Airline
- Professor of Economics, Sanaa University

[¶](#)4. Minister of Oil and Mineral Wealth: Khaled Mahfouz Bahaj

Date of Birth: 1965
Place of Birth: Hadramout
English: Good
Education: - Masters, Business Administration, Bona University, India
Experience: - Financial and Administrative Manager, Arab Yemen Company
- Chief Supervisor for Human Resources Director, Canadian Nexen, 1999-2005

[¶](#)5. Minister of Social Affairs and Labor: Dr. Amat al-Razaq Ali Humad

Date of birth: unknown
Place of Birth: Hodeidah
English: Poor
Education: - PhD, Education Philosophy and Teaching Methods, Ein Shams University, Egypt, 1987
Experience: - Associate Professor, Education Department, Sanaa University
- Head of Arab and Islamic Studies, Education Department, Sanaa University
- Head of Higher Studies and Scientific Research, Education Department, Sanaa University
- Visiting Professor, Arab Studies Department, Georgetown University
- Participant, Arab Women's Forum, Damascus, 2003
- Head, Curriculum Team for preparing the National Strategy for Basic Education
- Member, Arab Education Union
- Member, Egyptian University, Curriculum and Teaching Methods
- Assistant Secretary for Women's Sector, General People's Congress

16. Minister of Human Rights: Khadijah Ahmed al-Haisami

Date of Birth: unknown
Place of Birth: unknown
English: Poor
Education: - PhD, Political Science, International Relations, Egypt University
Experience: - Professor, Political Science, Sanaa University
- Deputy Director, Women's Studies Center, Sanaa University
- Coordinator, Women and Development, Women's Studies Center
- Consultant, National Environment Protection Council
- Board member, Yemeni Olympic Committee
- Member, National Organization for Election Monitoring

17. Minister of Information: Hassan Ahmed al-Lawzi

Date of birth: 1952
Place of birth: unknown
English: unknown
Education: - Graduate, Sharia Law, al-Azhar University, Cairo
Experience: - Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA)
- Undersecretary, Ministry of Information, 1980 - 1990
- Participated in the establishment of the General People's Conference, 1982
- Editor in Chief, Al-Mithaq newspaper, 1982-1990
- Founding member, Yemeni Journalist Syndicate
- Minister of Culture, 1990
- Minister of Information, 1993
- Ambassador to Jordan, 1994
- Shura Council, appointed 2001

18. Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation: Dr. Jalal Ibrahim Fakaira

Date of Birth: May 28, 1968
Place of Birth: Hodeidah
English: Good
Education: - PhD, International Relations, Baghdad University, 1999
Experience: - Assistant Professor, Political Science, Sanaa University
- General Director, Office of the Prime Minister, 2005
- General Director, Scholarships Department, Ministry of Higher Education
- Vice President, Yemeni Political Science Association
- Assistant General Secretary, National Organization for Elections Monitoring
- Chairperson, Technical Team of Human Rights Committee
- Participant, Youth Leadership Program, USAID, 1990
- Participant, Fulbright American Institute course, 2004

19. Minister of Public Health and Population: Abdul Karim Ras'e

Date of Birth: November 3, 1958
Place of Birth: Haja
English: unknown
Education: PhD, Pediatrics, Cairo University
Experience: - World Health Organization, Counterpart Expert, 1985-1986
- Assistant Professor, Medical School, Sanaa University
- Head of Pediatrics Department, Sanaa University, 1993-1997
- Undersecretary for Services, Ministry of Health, 1997-1999
- Associate Professor, Pediatrics

Department, Sanaa University,
1999-2003
- President of Aden University,
2003-2006
- Member, Executive Council, Union of
Arab Universities, 2004
- Head, Yemeni Pediatricians
Association, 2004
- Head, Arab Pediatrician Union, 2005

10. Minister of Fisheries: Mahmoud Ibrahim Sagheri

Date of Birth: 1949
Place of Birth: Hodeida
English: unknown
Education: - Bachelors, Construction Engineering,
Technical Institute, Syria
- Diploma, Computers, Technical
Institute, Syria
Experience: - Editor-in-Chief, Al-Aklet Magazine,
1979-present
- Information Director, Ministry of
Culture and Media, 1989
- Deputy Minister, Ministry of Culture
and Tourism, Aden branch, 1990
- Chief Technical Director, Aden Oil
Refinery, 1991
- Member, Arab High Council for Science
and Astronomy
- Deputy Minister of Fisheries, 2005

**11. Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research:
Saleh Basoura**

Date of Birth: January 8, 1952
Place of Birth: Hadramout
English: unknown
Education: - BA, Education, History and Geography,
Aden University, 1976
- PhD, Philosophy, Leipzig University,
Germany 1986
Experience: - Professor, Aden University
- Head, History Department, School of
Education Aden University
- Dean of Scientific Research and Higher
Studies, Aden University
- President, Aden University, 1995
- President, Sanaa University, 2006

12. Minister of Tourism: Nabil Hasan al-Faqih

Date of Birth: 1967
Place of Birth: unknown
English: unknown
Education: - Bachelors, Economics (university
unknown)
Experience: - Marketing Manager, Yemenia Airline,
2000-2004
- Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism
and Culture, 2004-2006
- Head, Yemeni Union for Table Tennis
- Deputy Chairman, Arab Table Tennis
Union

13. Minister of Defense: Mohammed Nasser Ahmed Ali

Date of Birth: 1948
Place of Birth: Abyan
English: unknown
Education: - MA, Military Science and Commanding,
(university known)
Experience: - Director, Supply Department, Ministry
of Defense, 1996 - 2006
- Deputy Director of Logistics,
1990-1996
- Deputy Director of Military Supplies,
former People's Democratic Republic of
Yemen
- Recipient, May 22 Award (Yemen's
highest national award)

14. Minister of State for Sanaa: Yehya Mohammed al-Shaibi

Date of Birth: April 27, 1952
Place of Birth: Lahij
English: Fluent
Education: - BA, Chemistry, Fateh University, Libya
- Masters, Chemistry, Tuskegee University, 1980
- PhD, Analytical Chemistry, South Carolina University, 1984
Experience: - Professor, Sanaa University
- Deputy Director, Student Affairs, Sanaa University
- Assistant Rector, Sanaa University
- Ministry of Education, 1997-2001
- Minister of Education, 2002
- Governor of Aden, 2003 - 2006

15. Minister of Justice: Judge Ghazi Shaif al-Aghbari

Date of Birth: September 26, 1956
Place of Birth: Taiz
English: unknown
Education: - BA, Law, Cairo University, 1982
- Diploma, Sharia Law, Cairo University, 1985
- Diploma, Special Law, Cairo University, 1986
- PhD, Commercial Law, Cairo University, 1994
Experience: - Lawyer and Legal Advisor on Commercial Affairs and Special Arbitration, 1994-1998
- Head, Commercial Appeals Court, Sanaa, 1998-2001
- Lecturer, Commercial, Maritime and Arbitration Law, Higher Judiciary Institute and Police Academy
- Accredited Arbitrator, Arab Union for International Arbitration
- Accredited Arbitrator, Cairo Regional Center for International Commercial Arbitration
- Assistant Professor, Department of Maritime and Commercial Law, Sanaa University
- Judge, Commercial Department, Supreme Court, 2001 - 2006

16. Minister of Public Works and Roads: Engineer Omar Abdullah al-Kurs hemi

Date of Birth: October 1, 1964
Place of Birth: Sanaa
English: Good
Education: - BSc, Civil Engineering, University of Texas
Experience: - Civil Engineer, Public Corporation for Roads and Bridges, 1990 - 1997
- Director General of Corporation for Roads and Bridges, Hadramout Branch, 1997-2006

17. Minister of Water and Environment: Abdulrahman Fadhl Al-Iriyani

Date of Birth: March 4, 1954
Place of Birth: Taiz
English: Good
Education: - BSc, Agriculture, American University, Beirut
Experience: - Director, Socotra Development Project
- Deputy Chairman, Yemeni Islands Development Authority
- Director of Agricultural Research Board, Taiz
- Director, Taiz World Bank Pilot Project